



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1034

January Session, 2015



AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYEE WAGES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (h) of section 31-53 of the general statutes, as
2 amended by section 1 of public act 14-44, is repealed and the following
3 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

4 (h) The provisions of this section do not apply where the total cost
5 of all work to be performed by all contractors and subcontractors in
6 connection with new construction of any public works project is less
7 than [four hundred thousand] two million dollars or where the total
8 cost of all work to be performed by all contractors and subcontractors
9 in connection with any remodeling, refinishing, refurbishing,
10 rehabilitation, alteration or repair of any public works project is less
11 than one [hundred thousand] million dollars.

12 Sec. 2. Section 31-231a of the general statutes is repealed and the
13 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

14 (a) For a construction worker identified pursuant to regulations
15 adopted in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, the total
16 unemployment benefit rate for the individual's benefit year
17 commencing on or after April 1, 1996, shall be an amount equal to one
18 twenty-sixth, rounded to the next lower dollar, of his total wages paid

19 during that quarter of his current benefit year's base period in which
20 wages were the highest but not less than fifteen dollars nor more than
21 the maximum benefit rate as provided in subsection (b) of this section,
22 and on or after October 1, 2015, shall be an amount equal to one
23 twenty-sixth, rounded to the next lower dollar, of his total wages paid
24 during that quarter of his current benefit year's base period in which
25 wages were the highest but not less than twenty-five dollars nor more
26 than the maximum benefit rate as provided in subsection (b) of this
27 section. Commencing on and after October 1, 2016, and not later than
28 each October first thereafter, the administrator shall announce an
29 adjustment in the minimum unemployment benefit rate that shall be
30 equal to the percentage increase between the last complete calendar
31 year and the previous calendar year in the consumer price index for
32 urban wage earners and clerical workers in the northeast urban area of
33 New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA, with no
34 seasonal adjustment, as calculated by the United States Department of
35 Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the amount of the minimum
36 unemployment benefit rate increase rounded to the nearest five cents.
37 The minimum unemployment benefit rate increase announced by the
38 administrator not later than October first shall become the new
39 minimum unemployment benefit rate and shall be effective on the
40 January first immediately following.

41 (b) For an individual not included in subsection (a) of this section,
42 the individual's total unemployment benefit rate for his benefit year
43 commencing after September 30, 1967, shall be an amount equal to one
44 twenty-sixth, rounded to the next lower dollar, of the average of his
45 total wages, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section
46 31-222, paid during the two quarters of his current benefit year's base
47 period in which such wages were highest but not less than fifteen, and
48 commencing after October 1, 2015, not less than twenty-five dollars nor
49 more than one hundred fifty-six dollars in any benefit year
50 commencing on or after the first Sunday in July, 1982, nor more than
51 sixty per cent rounded to the next lower dollar of the average wage of
52 production and related workers in the state in any benefit year

53 commencing on or after the first Sunday in October, 1983, and
54 provided the maximum benefit rate in any benefit year commencing
55 on or after the first Sunday in October, 1988, shall not increase more
56 than eighteen dollars in any benefit year, such increase to be effective
57 as of the first Sunday in October of such year. The average wage of
58 production and related workers in the state shall be determined by the
59 administrator, on or before August fifteenth annually, as of the year
60 ended the previous June thirtieth to be effective during the benefit year
61 commencing on or after the first Sunday of the following October and
62 shall be so determined in accordance with the standards for the
63 determination of average production wages established by the United
64 States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Commencing
65 on and after October 1, 2016, and not later than each October first
66 thereafter, the administrator shall announce an adjustment in the
67 minimum unemployment benefit rate that shall be equal to the
68 percentage increase between the last complete calendar year and the
69 previous calendar year in the consumer price index for urban wage
70 earners and clerical workers in the northeast urban area of New York-
71 Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA, with no seasonal
72 adjustment, as calculated by the United States Department of Labor's
73 Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the amount of the minimum
74 unemployment benefit rate increase rounded to the nearest five cents.
75 The minimum unemployment benefit rate increase announced by the
76 administrator not later than October first shall become the new
77 minimum unemployment benefit rate and shall be effective on the
78 January first immediately following.

79 (c) The administrator shall adopt regulations pursuant to the
80 provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section.
81 Such regulations shall specify the National Council on Compensation
82 Insurance employee classification codes which identify construction
83 workers covered by subsection (a) of this section and specify the
84 manner and format in which employers shall report the identification
85 of such workers to the administrator.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	31-53(h)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	31-231a

LAB *Joint Favorable Subst.*

PD *Joint Favorable*